

More Success for Safely Surrendered Baby Law: Two More Babies Saved

Don Knabe, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, announced on Friday, April 9, that two babies had been safely surrendered within a 24-hour period.

“These saved babies are gifts from God,” said Supervisor Knabe. “We are pleased that we have now saved the lives of 24 babies during the life of this program. I want to thank the mothers for doing the right thing and giving their babies a chance of a good life.”



Under Supervisor Knabe’s leadership, the County of Los Angeles has made great strides to get information on the 2001 state law out to the public. In 2001, the first year of the law, there were zero safe surrenders and 14 abandoned babies. In 2002, following Supervisor Knabe’s efforts, there were 10 safe surrenders. The following year in 2003 there were eight safe surrenders, while the number of abandoned babies continued to drop.

“There is no shame. No blame. No names,” said Supervisor Knabe. “We just want the baby to be healthy and safe. While it’s sad that a mother gives up her child, we are thankful that she does the right thing and can be assured that we will find the child a good home.”

Under the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, parents may surrender their newborn infants at hospitals or designated fire stations within the first 72 hours after birth without facing criminal prosecution. The Department of Children and Family Services takes custody of these infants and moves them into adoptive homes as quickly as possible.

Anyone requiring more information about the County’s Safely Surrendered Baby Law should visit www.babysafela.org. To locate the nearest safe surrender site to you or for additional information, please call (877) BABY-SAFE, or (877) 725-5111.

Employee of the Month: Animal Care & Control’s Josefina Zabala

“Working effectively with all employees and inspiring them to put forth their best effort,” Josefina Zabala said, is one of many positive attributes that she brings to the workplace. The large group of family and colleagues present to support and honor her at the Employee of the Month ceremony on March 16 is indicative of her impact and influence on others. As a 22-year employee of the Department of Animal Care and Control, Dr. Zabala is currently a Senior Veterinarian responsible for animal health and welfare at all six County animal shelters.

“The most fulfilling aspect of my job is the tremendous improvement in the medical care program resulting in a significant decrease in euthanized shelter animals,” Zabala said. This is a testament to her dedication and compassion toward the animals that depend on her for their well-being.

EOM

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“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”

EVENT CALENDAR

40th Anniversary Celebration of "Community Action"

May 20: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Hall of Administration Mall Area

Call (213) 738-4345 for further information

Walt Disney Concert Hall

151 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 90012

www.laphil.org

Chamber Music - Performances take place in Gindi Auditorium at the University of Judaism.

May 24 - Chamber Music No. 8 - Los Angeles Philharmonic - Bach, Mozart, Schoenberg

Inside / Outside: The Shape of Music in Los Angeles

May 19 - Blurring the Boundaries

Los Angeles Philharmonic

May 14-16 - André Watts, piano - Copland, MacDowell, Dvorak

May 21-23 - Salonen / Kremer - Lindberg, Sibelius

May 28-30 - Uchida plays Mozart - Lim, Mozart, Brahms

Sounds About Town - Toyota Symphonies For Youth (TSFY)

May 22 - TSFY: Building Music - The Concert Hall

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

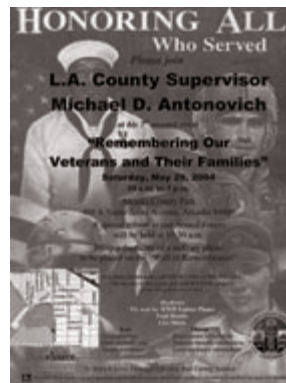
900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles

(213) 763-3466

www.nhm.org

Through September 1 – Live Butterflies All Around!

March 14 – Jan 2005 – L.A.: Light, Motion, Dreams



Please join Supervisor
Michael D. Antonovich
at his 7th Annual
**Remembering Our
Veterans and their
Families** Event

May 29: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Arcadia County Park
405 S. Santa Anita Avenue
Arcadia 91006

Safety Member Elections to be held for the Board of Retirement and Board of Investments of LACERA

LACERA Elections will be held this year to elect the Fourth Member of the Board of Investments and the Seventh Member and Alternate Member of the Board of Retirement for terms of office commencing January 1, 2005. The elections will be held on **Tuesday, July 27.**

Safety Members interested in running for these offices may obtain nomination packets beginning April 13 from the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk at 12400 Imperial Hwy., Norwalk, 90650. Nominating petitions must be signed by at least 50 active County employees (as of March 1, 2004) who are Safety Members. Petitions must be filed with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, before 5:00 p.m. **Wednesday, May 12.**

Come Walk With Us!!!

On May 22, NAMI (The Nation's Voice on Mental Illness) is having its first walk in California at the beautiful Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area in Irwindale. This is a full day of activities, useful information, entertainment for adults and children. Food can be purchased at the event from a number of popular vendors. The park gates will open at 6 a.m. with registration from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. The program will end at 5 p.m. Your pet dogs are very much welcomed. We are hoping to have a great show of support from our fellow County employees, their families and friends. Please set this date aside and plan to join us for this important event. Teams of walkers are beginning to form in most of the County agencies. Please think about becoming a team Captain! For more information, please call the NAMI Walks Los Angeles Headquarters at (213) 351-2874. We hope to see you and your family at the walk!



Articles and other submissions to the *County DIGEST* may be edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

Department of Human Resources
3333 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000 (10th floor)
Los Angeles, CA 90010

(213) 639-6386

(213) 639-0940 FAX

Available online at: hr.co.la.ca.us

WeTip WELFARE FRAUD
1-800-87-FRAUD

Supervisor Antonovich Calls on State Officials to Reform Hospital Seismic Standards and Nursing Ratios



In a joint appearance before a March public hearing by the Emergency Medical Services Commission, Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich and Supervisor Chuck Smith (left) of Orange County presented a letter signed by the 10 Supervisors from the two counties requesting Governor Schwarzenegger and the State Legislature to support measures averting a region-wide health care crisis.

Supervisor Antonovich testified that unfunded state mandates requiring seismic retrofits have forced Tenet Healthcare to sell 19 hospitals. The County of Los Angeles is also experiencing the same challenges Tenet faces and will spend \$119 million to retrofit public hospitals.

The joint letter also asked the state to waive sanctions on hospitals striving to meet nurse staffing ratios—but are unable because there is a shortage of specialty nurses available to meet these requirements. Further, it costs the County of Los Angeles \$40 million annually just to recruit nurses to meet nurse staff ratios.

“The Legislature needs to take immediate action to stop the increasing number of hospital closures and prevent an even greater health care crisis. The state’s unfunded mandates and burdensome regulations are forcing hospitals to either close, sell or face the prohibitive cost of compliance and the financial penalty of non-compliance,” Supervisor Antonovich said.

2003 Emergency Management Council Award of Excellence



David E. Janssen, CAO (*right*) pictured with Sheriff Leroy Baca (*left*), presented the 2003 Emergency Management Council (EMC) Award of Excellence to Deputy Robert J. Browning (*center*), from the Sheriff’s Department, during the March 3 EMC meeting. Deputy Browning was honored for his exemplary performance in the development and implementation of “The Stanley Mosk Courthouse Evacuation Procedures.” The EMC commended him for his dedication and significant contributions to emergency preparedness and to the County’s state of readiness.

EMC

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RETIREEES

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 30 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES:

William H. Calicchia, David L. Kruger

ASSESSOR: Russell F. Banducci, Edward N. Dougherty Jr.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: Robert L. Muench, Shari Nishi

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Linda S. Jenkins

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Gloria M. Dante, Juanita Henry, Cora Mack, Barbara Mudgett, Reette A. Rios, Maria G. Winter

COMMUNITY & SENIOR SERVICES: Edna Johnson, Robert E. Ryans

CORONER: Nancy Palmer

COUNTY COUNSEL: Sharon M. Watts

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Kenneth M. Bell, Pamela Bozanich

FIRE: Alfredo M. Aguilar, Robert A. Buchanan, John H. Costley, Robert J. Dobes, Donald J. Horton, Loy M. Irons, John C. McKay, Edward Neprud, Christophe Rowe, Allen D. Saft, Danny W. Sanchez, Alan C. Schmidt, Donald G. Taylor

HEALTH SERVICES: Audrey Corbit, Jorge Del Valle, Valerie Gee, Corazon Q. Guillermo, Clara Joseph, Martha A. Landreth, Nenita F. Leyran, Connie Martinez, Srinivasa Murthy Sr., Reginald Nakaoka, Daniel L. Ortiz, Anil Raikhy, Ernest Ramirez, Adalberto Ramos, Catherine A. Reiner, Evelyn Rudolph, James W. Sutton, Peter M. Wong

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Avrette J. Fullwood

INTERNAL SERVICES: Anthony Asuncion, Donna Campbell, Richard W. Forrest Jr., Ralph A. Hamada, Douglas J. Howard, John T. Kaneshiro, Daniel L. Knox Jr., Wayne H. Nakano, William H. Ng, Amelita A. Pamaran, Gilbert S. Romero, Joe Varela, Gary Zaslove

PROBATION: Charles Anderson, Samuel L. Brown, William E. Chapman, Richard Freedman, John H. Griffith, Dieter Kammerer, William G. McCarthy Jr., Fabio Reyes, Terrell G. Roberts, Eric L. Sykes, Yvette Ware

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Henry A. Bastien, Alfred Cohen, Michael H. Demby, Geneva Phillips

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Leah N. Magua

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Dorothy J. Baylor, David L. Brick, Isabell Burries, Florence E. Cooney-Hill, Amye Jefferson-Allen, Anne McCorvey, Janice Molenrich, Isabel Racanelli, Mary K. Serna, Nina E. Sottosanti, Joel E. Thacker

PUBLIC WORKS: Robert K. Bravender, Rafael Galaz, Charles J. Horn, John J. Payetta III, Beverly Reese, Wayne A. Rice, James B. Singleton, John Velasquez, James P. Verti

RETIREEES

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When the Department rescues animals from inhumane conditions, Dr.

Zabala plays the most critical role in overseeing medical evaluations, diagnoses, treatments and ongoing care the animals require. In many cases, she must testify in criminal court regarding suffering and neglect these animals were subjected to. Her testimony has been instrumental in obtaining criminal convictions for animal abusers.

As a productivity improvement, Dr. Zabala initiated a successful study which evaluated the benefits of adding a vaccine against a highly contagious virus among dogs known as “kennel cough” to the medical regimen provided to incoming dogs. The new vaccine was incorporated into the Department’s procedures which led to healthier dogs and happier pet owners.

Dr. Zabala has increased the daily spay/neuter surgeries by more than 500% when necessary, resulting in fewer births of unwanted animals and more efficient use of clinic resources. Also, through her evaluation and introduction of pediatric spay/neuter surgeries at the shelters, puppies and kittens may be sterilized prior to placement, greatly increasing productivity and allowing sterilization of animals at an age when they recover more rapidly.

“I am proud to say that with the fewest number of personnel, the Department is able to provide a comprehensive line of services. I have not heard of any agency with such a hard working group of animal medical providers, considering the number of animals the County receives,” Zabala said. As an accomplished clinician and surgeon highly respected by her peers, she also serves as a trainer, providing guidance and coaching to the veterinarians to ensure quality medical work.

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Supervisor Molina Heightens Awareness for Organ and Tissue Donations

In an effort to heighten public awareness of the need for organ and tissue donations, Supervisor Gloria Molina officially declared April 2004 "Donate Life Month" throughout the County of Los Angeles at the March 23 meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

"Organ and tissue donation is a life-giving act and the greatest expression of compassion," Supervisor Molina said. "Many bereaved families find solace in donating their loved one's organs and tissues. This act of kindness offers patients a new chance at healthy, productive, and normal lives by allowing them to return to their families, friends, and communities."

Supervisor Molina and her colleagues directed the Auditor-Controller to include in all County employees' April 15 paychecks a message about "Donate Life Month" and directed the Department of Human Resources (DHR) to distribute via paycheck a "Donate Life" brochure authored by the OneLegacy Transplant Donor Network. DHR will also team with OneLegacy employees and medical personnel from all County hospitals to coordinate organ donation workshops for staff working at the hospital.

The OneLegacy Transplant Donor Network is one of 59 regional, non-profit, federally designated organizations dedicated to the life-saving and life-enhancing benefits of organ and tissue donations. OneLegacy works with 14 transplant centers and 225 donor hospitals in Southern

California to help children and adults live longer, fuller lives through transplantation.



Supervisor Gloria Molina congratulates OneLegacy staff for their partnership with the County of Los Angeles during "Donate Life Month."

Top row left to right: Dr. Peter Gruen (President-Elect of LAC+USC Medical Staff), Tenaya Wallace (OneLegacy Manager of Communications), Bryan Stewart (OneLegacy Director of Communications), Angela Heeran (OneLegacy Hospital Services Coordinator), Dr. Thomas Garthwaite (Director, Department of Health Services), and Pete Delgado (LAC+USC Medical Center Executive Director). Bottom row left to right: Supervisor Molina, Patricia Elizarraraz (OneLegacy Volunteer and Kidney Recipient) and Herschel Wise (OneLegacy Volunteer and Donor Father).

MOLINA

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Dr. Zabala implemented a new Departmental procedure to determine the adoptability of its animals, including medical and behavioral analysis. For the first time, this procedure enabled the Department to understand and track the adoptability of animals in their care, and created a system in which over 90% of adoptable animals are placed into new loving homes.

Having graduated from the University of the Philippines School of Veterinary Medicine in 1966, her hobbies include raising orchids, ballroom dancing, and tending to her fruit trees. She is married to husband Fred, a veterinarian in private practice, whom she says supports her various professional, civic and community oriented activities. They have two adult daughters, Patricia Joy and Teresa Eden and "two of the most adorable grandchildren," Zabala said.

Congratulations, Dr. Zabala, on all your accomplishments and unsurpassed dedication to animal welfare.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Metro Gold Line Beckons Daily L.A./Pasadena Commuters With Available Parking at Seven Stations

Daily commuters weary of driving the congested 110 and 210 Freeways between Pasadena and downtown Los Angeles and points in between have good reason to pocket their car keys and jump on-board a Metro Gold Line train to and from work.

L.A.'s newest rail line offers thousands of free and paid parking spaces at seven stations on the 13.7-mile route. Large parking facilities are located at three stations, with limited parking available at four others.



“Drivers can save money on gasoline, vehicle maintenance and parking while being able to read the newspaper, prepare for work or just relax,” MTA CEO, Roger Snoble said. “What’s more, parking can be hard to find at downtown Los Angeles area work sites. With convenient parking lots throughout the Metro Gold Line, parking and riding to and from work is often simply the best transportation choice.

The Metro Gold Line begins in downtown Los Angeles and passes through Chinatown, Lincoln Heights, Highland Park, and South Pasadena to East Pasadena and back. Parking is available at the following stations:

Sierra Madre Villa Station (149 North Halstead at Colorado Boulevard/Foothill Boulevard)

Parking: 950 total: 850 free, 100 reserved spaces. Monthly reserved parking fee: \$39

Travel Time: To Union Station: Approx. 36 minutes

Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Lines 177, 181, 264, 266, 267, 268, 487

Foothill Transit Lines 184, 187, 189, Montebello Bus Line 20, City of Sierra Madre – City Shuttle, City of Arcadia Shuttle, Pasadena ARTS Bus Routes 31, 32, 40, 60

Lake Station (340 N. Lake Avenue at Maple Street/Corson Street)

Parking: 100 reserved spaces only. Monthly reserved parking fee: \$39

Travel Time: To Union Station: Approx. 30 minutes, to Sierra Madre Villa Station: Approx. 6 minutes

Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Lines 180, 380, 485, Pasadena ARTS Bus Route 20

Del Mar Station (230 South Raymond Avenue at Del Mar Boulevard/Dayton Street/Fair Oaks Avenue)

Parking: 600 paid spaces

Travel Time: To Union Station: Approx. 26 minutes, To Sierra Madre Villa Station: Approx. 10 minutes

Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Lines 177, 256, 260, 361, 686, Pasadena ARTS Bus Routes 20, 50

Fillmore Station (95 Fillmore Street at Raymond Avenue/Arroyo Parkway)

Parking: 131 free and reserved spaces

Travel Time: To Union Station: Approx. 24 minutes, To Sierra Madre Villa Station: Approx. 12 minutes

Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Line 260, 361, 686, Pasadena ARTS Bus Routes 20, 50

Heritage Square/Arroyo Station (3545 Pasadena Avenue, at French Avenue, one block south of North Figueroa Street)

Parking: Approx. 145 free spaces

Travel Time: To Union Station: Approx. 8 minutes, To Sierra Madre Villa Station: Approx. 28 minutes

Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Lines 83, 255

Lincoln Heights/Cypress Park Station (370 West Avenue 26 at Lacy Street, adjacent to the Golden State Freeway and Pasadena Freeway interchange)

Parking: Approx. 91 free spaces

Travel Time: To Union Station: Approx. 5 minutes, To Sierra Madre Villa Station: Approx. 31 minutes

MTA

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County Employee Appreciation: Reservists that are Currently Serving in the Armed Forces

The County of Los Angeles is proud to join the Public Employees Roundtable in Washington, D.C., in officially celebrating and proclaiming the week of May 3 through May 9, as Public Service Recognition Week. This week is dedicated to recognizing and honoring the excellent service and commitment of public employees and the outstanding contributions they make to enrich and enhance the quality of life of our constituents and the community at large.

The County will also be saluting our employees who are serving in the Armed Forces. The idea came from a 37-year-old Marine staff sergeant who is serving a tour of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The father of five, whose parents are retired County of Los Angeles employees, said that what meant the most to the troops, whose average age is 22 in his unit, is receiving correspondence and care packages not only from family and friends, but from other caring Americans. Below is a list of County employees who are reservists that are currently on active duty in the Armed Forces.

ASSESSOR: Reynaldo Bernabe, Manuel Gallegos
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Floyd Crow, Rachel Weinreb
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Michael L. Hale, Derrick Shoemake
DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Louis Avila, John Kim
FIRE: Anthony Dixon, Richard Mullen, Ray Perez, Eric Taylor
HEALTH SERVICES/AIDS P&P 296: Alvin Ransom
HEALTH SERVICES/HARBOR: Fernando Villa
HEALTH SERVICES/LAC+USC: Johnathan Cisneros,

Raudel Rivera, Victor U. Santos, Jeanette Serrazano
HEALTH SERVICES/MLK: Carla Harris
HEALTH SERVICES/OMC 120: Emma Carrillo
HEALTH SERVICES/PH 295: Christopher Brown
HEALTH SERVICES/VALLEY CARE: Rosa Gutierrez
HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Gary J. Esquivel, Edwin Sandoval, George W. West, Clifton D. Williams
INTERNAL SERVICES: George A. Mitchell Jr.
MENTAL HEALTH: Jeffrey Bordin, Robert DeCarlo, Ali Khajawall, Christopher Wells
PROBATION: Mark Baskerville, Ray Causly, James Dunn, Thoeuth Duong, Kyle B. Fortson, David Glaspie, Benjamin Morales, Ivy Washington
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Adrian Crespo, Alberto Funez, Victor Gonzalez, Harris Lee, Taft Robinson, Moises Rosales, Julio Salazar, Clarence Shaw
PUBLIC WORKS: Dennis H. Budd, Jacobo Casteneda, Steven Cordero, David Fernandez, Phillip D. Manuel, Alejandro Nunez, Stephen J. Vincent,
SHERIFF: Gregory Anderson, Samuel Arias, James Amann, Miguel Balderrama, Heriberto Barboza, Jessica Berry, Kenneth Binkley, Jesus Cabadas, John Calvillo, Felipe Chee, Andrew Cronin, Gerald Dixon, Vincent Ferreira, Eric Ford, Vidal Garcia, Jose Gonzalez, Daniel Hoyos, Nicholas Hul, Peter Hunter, Johnny James, Daniel Jara, Robert Mahoney, Mercedes Murillo, Richard Neil, Arturo Padilla, Brian Peterson, Larry Richards, Miguel Ruiz, Eric Salvato, David Scheinfarb, Steven Snover, Patrick Torres, Michael Vargas-Machuca, Jose Velasquez, James Wolfhope, Raul Zuniga
SUPERIOR COURT: Maritza Klinefelter

We support our troops. Join the “Treats for the Troops” campaign. For more information, please contact your departmental Quality and Productivity Manager.

2004 Commissioners Leadership Conference

“Empowering County Commissioners: Communicate, Educate and Advocate”

The Quality and Productivity Commission will host the 2nd annual Commissioners Leadership Conference on Wednesday, May 26, at the Music Center, 5th floor, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The purpose of this Conference is to share critical information about the State of the County and to learn about Countywide initiatives empowering Commissioners to become County Ambassadors enabling them to communicate, educate and advocate on



behalf of the County of Los Angeles.

Board of Supervisors Chairman, Don Knabe, will kick-off the Conference providing welcoming remarks. David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer, will present the State of the County followed by a Justice and a Community Services panel featuring department heads.

For more information, please contact the Quality and Productivity Commission at (213)974-1361 or rwong@cao.co.la.ca.us.

“To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service”

ENRICHING LIVES...

Social Worker Dedicates American Flag to Los Angeles County Foster Children While Serving in Middle East

When Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Social Worker Napoleon Sadsad signed up for the Naval Reserves in 1985, he had no idea he would one day be sitting in a military convoy in Iraq being shot at. Sadsad served in Kuwait and Iraq from February 2003 through last August as part of the Naval Reserve Seabees in charge of heavy equipment operation assigned to the Marines.

On a daily basis, Sadsad and his fellow Reserves traveled with Marine convoys moving personnel and equipment throughout Iraq. Under the motto of "We Build – We Fight," the Seabees also helped remove physical barriers for the Marines, helped to reconstruct bridges that had been destroyed and built the infrastructures for camps. Occasionally, there was gunfire and manual labor in 120-degree heat, and through it all Sadsad said he always kept the people back home in his mind.

So when the opportunity came to show dedication and honor toward the children in Los Angeles County foster care, Sadsad didn't hesitate. As part of a military flag dedication program, Sadsad raised an American flag last April in honor of Los Angeles County foster children and had it formally dedicated.

The flag flew over Camp 93 in Kuwait where Sadsad was stationed with the Marines during Operation Iraqi Freedom. "I thought it would be a neat thing to do," he said. "I wanted to show support for the Department and support for the children and families we serve."

Shortly after its dedication, the flag and an official certificate marking the event was shipped back to the DCFS Pasadena office where Sadsad works.



Staff is looking into plans to mount the flag in the office.

Sadsad said his social work skills came in handy while serving in the Middle East. He dealt with many Iraqi children who would routinely surround the convoys begging for food and water. He also said that a great level of teamwork was involved in getting jobs done and the quick ability to assess situations was a skill he used frequently. Like being a social worker, Sadsad experienced a range of emotions as a soldier, from the fear of unknown, potentially violent situations to the satisfaction of helping children in need.

Sadsad will continue in the Reserves, serving one weekend a month and two weeks a year. He will also continue serving the children and families on his caseload with a renewed sense of dedication.



"I feel I am a voice for the children," he said. "This is something I've always wanted to do. It is very fulfilling and I've always rooted for the underdog."

We salute Napoleon Sadsad for his outstanding work as a County Ambassador and are proud to have him on our A-Team!



"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"



County of Los Angeles VISION

Our ***purpose*** is to improve the quality of life in Los Angeles County by providing responsive, efficient and high quality public services that promote the self-sufficiency, well-being and prosperity of individuals, families, businesses and communities.

Our ***philosophy*** of teamwork and collaboration is anchored in our shared values:

- ◆ responsiveness
- ◆ professionalism
- ◆ accountability
- ◆ compassion
- ◆ integrity
- ◆ commitment
- ◆ a can-do attitude
- ◆ respect for diversity

Our ***position*** as the premier organization for those working in the public interest is established by:

- ◆ a capability to undertake programs that have public value
- ◆ an aspiration to be recognized through our achievements as the model for civic innovation
- ◆ a pledge to always work to earn the public trust

MOLINA

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According to OneLegacy, organ and tissue transplantations save 23,000 lives annually and improve the overall quality of life for many others. More than 83,000 individuals nationwide and 17,000 in California are currently on the national organ transplant waiting list; unfortunately, a person dies every 90 minutes while waiting for a donated organ. A single individual's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas, and small intestine can save up to seven lives, and the donation of tissue can save and enhance the lives of up to 50 others.

At the Board of Supervisors' April 6 meeting, Supervisor Molina formally commended OneLegacy for their ongoing commitment to saving lives and their coordination with the County of Los Angeles during "Donate Life Month."

"I truly hope County employees take time to reflect on what a critical difference they could make for the life of a fellow human being by choosing to become an organ donor," Supervisor Molina concluded.

24-hour Donor Referral Line

(800) 338-6112

Corporate/Central L.A.

S. Mark Taper Transplant Center
2200 West Third St., Suite 400
Los Angeles, CA 90057
T (213) 413-6219 F (213) 413-5373

South/Metro L.A.

19191 South Vermont Ave., Suite 545
Torrance, CA 90502
T (310) 353-7100 F (310) 353-7114

North Los Angeles

30101 Agoura Court, Suite 114
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
T (818) 889-1255 F (818) 889-2091

Inland Empire

1701 Orange Tree Lane
Redlands, CA 92374
T (909) 801-3701 F (909) 801-3707

Orange County

701 South Parker St., Suite 2600
Orange, CA 92868
T (714) 480-1040 F (714) 480-1046

The Fifth Annual Law Enforcement - Mental Health Conference

**Wednesday, June 2
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

The Department of Mental Health in collaboration with the Mental Health Commission, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles School Police and the Probation Department will sponsor the fifth annual Law Enforcement – Mental Health Conference this year on Wednesday, June 2. The theme of the conference will be: "Joining Forces in the Community – Communicating and Collaborating." This event will be held at the Hyatt Regency Los Angeles at Macy's Plaza, 711 South Hope Street in Los Angeles.

Law enforcement and mental health professionals will gain skills and knowledge for responding to members of our community who may be experiencing a crisis or an acute emotional disturbance. There is no charge for the conference and complimentary lunch will be provided. Enrollment is limited and early registration is recommended. For more information and a registration brochure, please call the Department of Mental Health, Training and Cultural Competency Bureau at (213) 738-2318 or e-mail Lisa Mangiagli, Training Coordinator at lmangiagli@dmh.co.la.ca.us.



RETIREES

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REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Grover C. Hampton, Reginald G. McFerren, Graciela C. Romero-Chavez

SHERIFF: Robert L. Alford, Bertha S. Alvarez, Clifford C. Brown, Gary R. Burbach, Robert K. Cooke, Joseph M. Cullen, Ronald H. Dayhoff, Robert J. Dearmore, Kenneth F. Fitzpatrick, Hector D. Garcia, Raul R. Garza, Tommy L. Harris, Dennis V. Henderson, Richard G. Johnson, Patrick W. Kearns, Thomas Lambrecht, Juan Larramendi, Luis M. Najera, Susan M. Panton, John Parresol, Cornelius Robertson, Bruce D. Sabatini, Vernon E. Sowards, Walter E. Szwienik, Elaine Waller

SUPERIOR COURT: Donald G. Cameron, Kenneth W. Douglas, Christy E. Kelso, Marcella Proctor

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after 25 or more years of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles:

ASSESSOR: Maneck R. Daver, Gabriel Khalil, Jiro Suguro

CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES: Naomi E. Ledesma

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Julie B. Dutran, Miriam D. Montiel, Lula M. Reed, Rowland S. Selame, Rosia L. Walker

FIRE: Gary G. Bertz, Henry A. Carranza, Joseph Delira, John A. Fiechter, Thomas P. Peacock

HEALTH SERVICES: Audrey Corbit, Jorge Del Valle, Valerie Gee, Corazon Q. Guillermo, Clara Joseph, Martha A. Landreth, Nenita F. Leyran, Connie Martinez, Srinivasa Murthy Sr., Reginald Nakaoka, Daniel L. Ortiz, Anil Raikhy, Ernest Ramirez, Adalberto Ramos, Catherine A. Reiner, Evelyn Rudolph, James W. Sutton, Peter M. Wong

HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Authra Waterhouse

INTERNAL SERVICES: Barry K. Blocker, James K. Boyer, Lucy Y. Chao, Chiu T. Chuang, Mattie L. Knox, Annabel S. Lin, Frank Westbrook

PROBATION: Stanford Perkins, Marietta S. Reyes

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Mary I. Morales, Stuart L. Rosenberg, Brian J. Trygstad

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Sahib Aleem, Young Chung, Eva Corona, Florence Lincke, Luz M. Murillo

PUBLIC WORKS: Sue L. Cheung, Marlon R. Padua, Fawzia M. Shehata, Aaron L. Tallent

REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Elenita D. Reyes, Ernesto Solda

SHERIFF: Ross C. Anderson Jr., Robert V. Cooney, Michael F. Duddy, Raymond R. Esquerra, George L. Fortner Jr., William Horwitz, Deanna R. Hurwitz, Michael E. Martinez, Ronnie M. Pearce, Kraig L. Petersen, Dan L. Rice, Jack E. Schultz, Jorge A. Seminario, Gregory F. Simon, Richard W. Staidle, John T. Voyles

SUPERIOR COURT: Teresa D. Esparza, Leonard J. Kamecki Jr.

American Academy of Forensic Sciences (AAFS) 2004 Distinguished Fellow Recipient

Gerald Vale, DDS, MDS, JD, MPH, is now entering his 56th year of a remarkable career in dentistry. He first became involved with the County of Los Angeles Coroner's office in 1968 when asked to help identify 21 victims in the crash of a helicopter *en route* to Disneyland. He has now served in Los Angeles for 36 years as the Chief Forensic Dental Consultant, and currently as Senior Forensic Dental Consultant, in one of the busiest Coroner's offices in the nation. Dr. Vale testified in California's first bitemark case, *People vs. Marx*, which legal authors have described as "the leading case on bitemarks." He has supervised more than 3,000 forensic identification investigations and 450 bitemark investigations, testifying or consulting in eight states and in Canada.

Elected to membership in the Odontology Section of the AAFS in 1976 and promoted to Fellow in 1978, Dr. Vale has been an active member of the Academy for 28 years. His service to this eminent society includes his continued participation in the AAFS Annual Meetings and on the Bitemark Evidence Committee.

Dr. Vale has served as president of the American Board of Forensic Odontology (ABFO) and is a charter member of the American Society of Forensic Odontology. In 1984, he chaired the ABFO committee that was tasked with the drafting of Bitemark Guidelines, served as facilitator of the workshop discussions on the Guidelines and as editor of the initial drafts. The Guidelines have been used throughout the world. For many years, Dr. Vale has taught homicide courses for police agencies, has lectured in California Department of Justice programs and courses for the California District Attorney's Association, and gave the forensic dentistry presentation at the FBI's VI CAP International Homicide Symposium.

In addition to his forensic activities, Dr. Vale has served as Chief Public Health Dentist for the County of Los Angeles, Director of Dentistry at the Los Angeles County + USC Medical Center, Vice President of the Dental

Board of California, and Interim Dean of the USC School of Dentistry. He has published more than 50 articles and book chapters on various dental topics.



"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

MTA

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Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Lines 251, 252, 350

Union Station (800 North Alameda Street at Cesar Chavez Avenue)

Parking: Approx. 2,000+ paid spaces

Travel Time: To Sierra Madre Villa Station: Approx. 36 minutes

Connecting Bus Service: Metro Bus Lines 33, 38, 40, 42, 58, 60, 68, 70, 71, 78, 79, 340, 370, 434, 439, 442, 444, 445, 446, 447, 484, 485, 487, 489, 490, 491, Metro Rapid South Broadway Line 745, Antelope Valley Transit Authority Line 785 (Mon-Fri only), Foothill Transit Lines 480, 481, 482, 486, 488, 492, 493, 494, 495, 498, 499, 699, LADOT Commuter Express 430, 534 (Mon-Fri only), LADOT Dash B, D, DD (weekend only), OCTA Line 701 (Mon-Fri only), Santa Clarita Transit Line 794 (Mon-Fri only), Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Line 10, Torrance Transit Lines 1, 2

Connecting Train Service: Amtrak, Metro Red Line to North Hollywood and Wilshire/Western Metrolink Antelope Valley, Ventura County, San Bernardino, Riverside, 91 and Orange County Lines.

Drivers can reserve parking at the Sierra Madre Villa Station and the Lake Station by visiting the MTA's Web site at www.metro.net or by calling (800) 997-0197. Permits range from \$20 to \$39 per month.

For more information on Metro Bus and Rail timetables, call (800) COMMUTE or visit www.metro.net.



Knabe Charity Tennis Tournament Set for May 15-16

Tennis players of all skill-levels are encouraged to compete for trophies and a chance to support two local charitable organizations at the Seventh Annual Knabe Charity Tennis Tournament, presented by Merrill Lynch on May 15-16, at La Mirada Regional Park, 13701 S. Adelfa Avenue, in the city of La Mirada.



Hosted by Supervisor Don Knabe, the County Department of Parks and Recreation, the La Mirada Tennis Club and presented by Merrill Lynch, the Knabe Charity Tennis Tournament helps to fund the efforts of Biola Tennis for the physically challenged and the Teen Program, a recreational-leadership program for teen-aged youth throughout the County of Los Angeles.

Registration is \$30 per team and includes a tournament T-shirt. All entries must be submitted by May 8. For application forms or more information, call Mike Williams at (562) 947-8744, Nick Chico at (562) 972-4460, or Scott Devens at (800) 274-8912.

Supervisor Burke Convenes First County Records and Archives Symposium

On March 19, Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke opened a symposium attended by nearly 100 people composed of County department heads and executives, archiving experts and professionals in records management at the County Natural History Museum. The symposium was the latest in a series of steps that followed the Supervisor's motion before the Board of Supervisors, unanimously passed in February 2003, calling for a plan to maintain and preserve County records, including cost estimates.



From left to right, Diane Cornwell of the Haynes Foundation and Supervisor Burke were joined by Chief Administrative Officer David Janssen and former California State Archivist Walter Gray just before presentations began at the Records and Archives Management Symposium.

Surrounded by brightly lit exhibits of wild animals from several continents, attendees listened attentively as officials and experts from around the state gave presentations on the need for and importance of government archives.

Former State Archivist Walter Gray started the program, and included stories about how the California state archives are maintained and how to avoid management pitfalls. He was followed by Dr. Gabriele Carey, a consultant who has worked with several county archives, including Orange County. She noted that while a handful of counties do have archiving programs, most of California's locally held public records are in jeopardy because of inadequate policies and improper storage. Former City of Los Angeles Archivist and Records Management Officer Hynda Rudd told attendees that the city, which has "a very good records retention system has wanted to work with the County for years." She presented a step-by-step outline of how to begin implementing an archiving system.

At lunch following the morning's presentations, Chief Administrative Officer David Janssen presented a panel on identifying the needs the County has in creating a records and archives management system. It was modified by Caltech Associate Professor of History Bill Deverell, and included former State Archivist Walter Gray; Edward Dabran of Doculabs, a firm that deals with archiving technology;



On opening the Records and Archives Management Symposium, Supervisor Burke (right) presented a scroll to Haynes Foundation Administrative Director Diane Cornwell, thanking her for a grant funding the symposium.

BURKE

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EMC

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Deputy Browning extended his thanks to the Sheriff's Department staff at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse who worked with him unselfishly and to the Court Administrators and bench officers who gave their insight and suggestions.

"As a team, every obstacle we faced became an opportunity to improve upon our safety and our working conditions," Browning said.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

The EMC's mission is to oversee the preparedness activities of County departments and to ensure that departments work cooperatively and with the same goals in preparing for and responding to a disaster.

Previous EMC award winners include Dr. John Celentano, Department of Health Services, Battalion Chief Ron Watson, County Fire Department, and Battalion Chief Jeffrey Marcus, City of Los Angeles Fire Department, as the 2002 award recipients and Bob Gillis, Internal Services Department, as the 2001 award recipient.

Child Support Services and ISD Team Up to Launch Information Kiosk on Child Support for County Residents

The Child Support Services Department (CSSD), County of Los Angeles, has finished the first phase of a project to install internet-based kiosks in various locations throughout the county's jurisdiction. The touch-screen kiosk provides County residents with basic information about child support services in both English and Spanish.

"These kiosks are another step to improve the customer service of our Department," said Philip Browning, director of Child Support Services. "We appreciate the collaboration with the Internal Services Department (ISD) to make the kiosks a reality for our County residents in need of child support services."

L.A. County CSSD does not take its commitment to customer service lightly. It is the largest locally administered child support agency in the country with 1,800 employees and positively impacts the lives of thousands of children and families. Last year, the Department collected a record \$490 million in child support while managing 500,000 cases.

The Department's new kiosks were turned on in February at seven Division locations of Child Support Services in L.A. County and two locations in the community. CSSD is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony to formally recognize the launch of the kiosks. It is also exploring locations for six additional kiosks.

Bringing the kiosk project to reality was the Communications and Marketing Division of Child Support Services and the Social Services Systems Division of ISD. CSSD developed the editorial content and vendor PSI of Denver, Colorado created the system application with oversight from ISD.

"We take great satisfaction in collaborating with Child Support Services and other agencies to use technology to better serve the residents of the County of Los Angeles," said Julio Ortega, Division Manager of ISD's Social Services Systems Division. "Through regular meetings, we were successful in providing CSSD with assistance on technical matters of the project especially as it relates to the delivery of the product by the vendor."

The ISD project team included Kathy Mizushima, Steven McConaughy, Luis Pingol, and Sonia Ajang of Social Services Systems Division. CSSD's team included Division Chief Linda Jenkins, Head Attorney Wayne Doss, Staff Attorney Wendy Weisler, Ombudsperson Carol Mentell, Division Chief Dean DeGruccio, Deputy Director Julie Paik, Division Chief Nicole Krenn; Division Chief Al Reyes of Communications and Marketing and Video cameraman Michael Danker.

ISD has been fully involved in vendor selection, critical suggestion to application design, approval of each deliverable and provided CSSD with site preparation: router assessment, LAN/WAN wiring, floor plan, engineering plan, data security review, hardware security review, setup email, IP address, Mask, Gateway, and training CSSD employees.

The kiosk application is based on a multi-media concept and is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). For example, a visually impaired person can navigate the screen via Braille keyboard and can listen to the audio/video. A physically impaired person can navigate the screen via wireless mouse and the height, as well as the tilt of screen, is in compliance with a person who sits in a wheelchair. A hearing impaired person can read animated captioned text at the bottom of the screen.



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Robert Marshall, Head Archivist at California State University, Northridge; Todd Gaydowski, the current City of Los Angeles Records Management Officer; and Marc Haefele, Weekly Commentator at KPCC Radio, who spoke about the importance of public archives and records to the media. The symposium concluded at 2 p.m.

Supervisor Burke later stated she was pleased with information presented, and thanked the Haynes Foundation for co-sponsoring the symposium with a grant. She noted that based on the issues raised at the symposium the County's Records Management Task Force and the Haynes Foundation will be collaborating to develop the next steps towards improved management of County records and archives. The next update to the Board of Supervisors is expected in July.

Safe Communities Week

Supervisor Don Knabe kicked off the Safe Communities Week Festival on Saturday, April 3.

"The safety of the children and families that call the County of Los Angeles home is of paramount concern to me," Supervisor Knabe said. "We must also remember that in the war on terrorism we must work to keep our hometowns secure if we are to keep our nation secure."

For the 12th consecutive year, Rowland Unified School District and the communities it serves observed Safe Communities Week promoting a safe, secure and peaceful environment. The Festival is a time to celebrate all aspects of the role the community plays for everyone to enjoy.

Many school, community and public service groups contributed by providing entertainment and/or information booths. Among the groups included Supervisor Knabe's office, the Sheriff's Department, the Department of Parks and Recreation, Rowland Unified School District and Operation Safe Community.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Supervisor Yaroslavsky Visits Calvert Street School

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (*center*) paid a visit to Calvert Street School in Woodland Hills for a nationwide "Read-Around"



program of classic Dr. Seuss stories to a group of schoolchildren. Dropping by to read from the Seuss favorite, "Oh, the Places You'll Go!," Yaroslavsky lent his talents as part of the "Read Across America" campaign to promote reading and literacy, celebrating the "Seussentennial" (the 100th birthday) of author Theodore "Dr. Seuss" Geisel, who died at the age of 87 in 1991.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky Offers Opening Remarks at Public Hearing

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky offered opening remarks as State Attorney General Bill Lockyer listened intently during a public hearing. Supervisor Yaroslavsky convened the hearing to consider the implications of Tenet Healthcare's announced sale of 19 hospitals throughout California, four of which are in the County of Los Angeles. In his opening remarks, Supervisor Yaroslavsky told members of the County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Commission, "If we had had an earthquake, and 4,287 hospital beds were closed, it would have been declared a disaster. This decision by Tenet, which is exclusively their decision, and not a federal decision, is a disaster." The EMS Commission is to report back to the Board with its findings in the near future.



Share It

Consumer Services Information Sheet on DATING SERVICES [California Civil Code Section 1694]



Are you “Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places?” While some dating services provide the services they advertise, be aware that many consumers are left with false promises, broken hearts, and empty pockets. If you are considering hiring a dating service, keep in mind that **no one can guarantee they’ll find you the date of your dreams, much less “the perfect partner.”** The following tips explain your rights, and tell you how to get the best service for your money.

CHOOSING A DATING SERVICE:

Comparison shop. Decide in advance what you want the service to do for you and what you can afford to pay. Ask them these questions before you sign:

- What does the fee cover, and are there going to be other charges?
- How long has the service been in business? Are they likely to stay in business long enough to provide the services you paid for?
- Are clients screened for the qualities you want? How is the screening done, and what are the screener’s qualifications?
- How many clients who meet your requirements does the service have in its active database?
- How long do you have to wait before the first and subsequent dates are arranged?
- If the service claims its introductions are safe, how are the members investigated?

If the service makes claims of successful matches and satisfied clients, ask for documentation. Check with your local consumer protection agency and Better Business Bureau to see if people have complained against the service.

SIGNING THE CONTRACT:

Don’t let them pressure you into signing a contract right away. Claims that the price offer is good “today only” are seldom true. Take the contract home and read it carefully before you sign. Make sure everything you were promised is in the contract, and that it has no blank spaces. By law, the contract may not require payments or financing for more than two years, or offer services for more than three years.

CANCELING YOUR CONTRACT:

You may cancel the contract for any reason within 3 days from the date you sign it, not counting Sundays or holidays. The contract must have a cancellation notice telling you this. If you cancel, the service must give you a refund within 10 business days. Also, you don’t have to keep paying for services if you become disabled, die, or move more than 50 miles from the dating service office, and they can’t transfer your contract to a similar place. The contract has to tell you this, and they have to give you a refund for any unused services.

**Call the Department of Consumer Affairs at 1-800-593-8222
if you need help resolving a dispute with a dating service.**



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